2024

Number 1

NCNA *Journal*

NCNA Journal

Volume 50 2024 Number 1

Spotlight on Collecting U.S. Seated Liberty Coinage!

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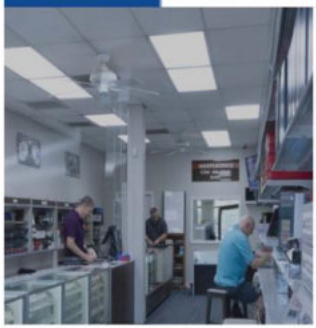

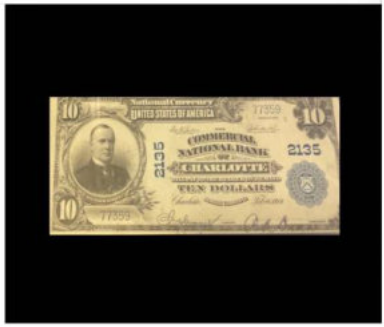

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NCNA Journal

The Official Publication of the North Carolina Numismatic Association

Volume 50 2024 Number 1

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The *NCNA Journal* is published four times per year by the North Carolina Numismatic Association. The opinions expressed in the articles published are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the position of the North Carolina Numismatic Association or the Editor.

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Writing for the NCNA Journal

The *NCNA Journal* welcomes original articles on all facets of numismatics; articles related to North Carolina numismatics are particularly encouraged. Submission of previously published articles will be considered on a case-by-case basis; prior publication source should be noted at time of submission. The NCNA reserves the right to edit all submissions for length, format and/or content.

Digital copies of submissions are preferred; they should be sent via email to: ghcheek@earthlink.net. Typewritten articles are also accepted; they should be sent to: Greg Cheek, P Box 185, Yadkinville, N.C. 27055.

The inclusion of images in support of a submitted article is very much appreciated. Digital images of 300 dpi (or higher) are preferred. Files in JPG format are preferred. Please contact the editor before sending images in other formats. Questions regarding images should be directed to the editor. ***PLEASE NOTE: The copyright for all images submitted must be owned by the submitter; submission of images downloaded from the internet without prior permission is not acceptable.***

Authors of articles submitted are eligible for the NCNA's **Bason Literary Award**. It is given each year in recognition of outstanding contributions to the *NCNA Journal* and/or other numismatic publications.

Advertising in the Journal

Advertisement artwork should be submitted in "camera ready" digital form (300 dpi or greater) whenever possible; a clean business card can be submitted for one-third page ad requests. A $35 charge will be incurred if the NCNA is required to design an advertisement prior to its publication. Payment is due prior to the first insertion.

Advertising Rates

	One Insertion	Annual (4x)
One-Third Page	$20	$60
Half Page	$30	$100
Full Page	$60	$200
Back Cover (Full Color)	N/A	$300

Submission Deadlines for Articles and Advertisements

Issue 1 – February 1 Issue 2 – May 1
Issue 3 – August 1 Issue 4 – November 1

President's Message

Greetings Fellow Numismatists and Friends!

I hope that your 2024 has become a year of discovery and "treasures" so far, with more on the horizon. The calendar is certainly loaded with promising coin and stamp shows for the remainder of the year.

It's also time to renew your NCNA Membership!

If you've not done so already, I encourage you to renew your NCNA membership for 2024 (or beyond) as soon as you can so that you will continue to receive the NCNA Journal each quarter. Read "News from the Secretary and Treasurer" on page 7 for more information on joining or renewing your NCNA membership.

I'm very excited about our NCNA scholarship programs. The scholarships discussed below are great opportunities to take your numismatic journey to the "next level".

Please consider helping a young numismatist connect with the **NCNA Young Numismatist Scholarship Program.** This NCNA program helps provide full tuition funding for one young collector each year to attend the **ANA Summer Seminar** held in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Young collectors and their parents should consider this great opportunity. Local clubs are also encouraged to nominate deserving young club members as well. While the February 15, 2024 deadline has passed for submitting an application for the 2024 ANA Summer Seminar, **you can apply now for 2025.** More information regarding the NCNA Young Numismatist Scholarship Program can be found on the NCNA website at ***www.NCNA.CLUB/yn-program***. Email Bob Pedolsky, our NCNA YN Coordinator, at rpedolsky@carolina.rr.com if you have any questions regarding the scholarship application process or the program itself.

Also, if you are looking to expand your overall numismatic knowledge, please consider submitting an application for the **G. Dean Whisnant Memorial Scholarship.** This NCNA sponsored scholarship was established in memory of G. Dean Whisnant. The purpose of this scholarship is to provide an individual with the opportunity to gain in-depth knowledge of numismatics through the American Numismatic Association's School of Numismatics Diploma Program. This scholarship covers the full $500 cost of the program, providing one individual each calendar year with the opportunity to obtain a "Numismatic Scholar" diploma. The program consists of six correspondence courses and a 200 question closed book final exam.

To be eligible for the G. Dean Whisnant Memorial Scholarship, the applicant must:

(1) Print, complete and sign the application from NCNA website
(2) Be a current member of the North Carolina Numismatic Association
(3) Be a current member of the American Numismatic Association
(4) Be 14 years of age as of August 1st of this calendar year
(5) Provide an approval signature of a parent or guardian if under the age of 18.

More information on the **ANA's School of Numismatics Diploma Program can be found on the ANA website at https://www.money.org**. Go to the NCNA website for the scholarship application form. Send applications for the G. Dean Whisnant Memorial Scholarship to me at ghcheek@earthlink.net or mailed and postmarked no later than August 1, 2024 to NCNA, c/o Greg Cheek, P.O. Box 185, Yadkinville, NC 27055.

New NCNA Award – "Lady Liberty Award"

I'm also very pleased to announce the "Lady Liberty Award", a new NCNA award recently created by the NCNA Board of Directors. The intent of this award is to honor women who have influenced, worked in, or mentored others on numismatics at the local club or statewide level. More information regarding this new award can be found on the NCNA website at ***www.NCNA.club***.

The NCNA Officers and Board of Directors look forward to another year of serving the NCNA membership in 2024. Please feel free to reach out to any of us with your ideas regarding the NCNA, local club efforts and promoting the hobby. See page 50 for contact information for NCNA officers and board members.

Happy Hunting in 2024 and wishing you the best!
Greg Cheek, NCNA President

On the Cover for this issue of the NCNA Journal …

Center, the first Seated Liberty coin, the silver dollar of 1836. Then…clock-wise from top, half dime no stars 1837, dime of the same year, 1877 proof 20 cents, quarter of 1839, an attractive half dollar from 1871, and the last Seated Liberty coin: the 2008W Martin Van Buren First Spouse gold half ounce. A new feature is inaugurated with this issue: ***"Join the Club"*** an introduction to the different specialized numismatic clubs and societies. This cover serves as an introduction to the ***Liberty Seated Collectors Club***. Look for more information for the club on page 46!
(By Paul Horner with all images courtesy of Heritage Auctions).

News from the Secretary & Treasurer

Halbert Carmichael has retired as the NCNA Treasurer, and **Fred Haumann has taken on the job of Treasurer** going forward. Bill Graves continues to serve as the NCNA Secretary.

If you have questions regarding payment of your NCNA membership, please email Fred at ***fjhstuff@yahoo.com***. Fred will take care of all incoming membership applications/payments and other financial matters for the NCNA.

Please direct all NCNA membership renewals and payments to Fred at following address: **Fred Haumann/NCNA**
PO Box 681
Bracey, VA 23919

Fred will pass along your membership information to Bill Graves, as Bill maintains the NCNA membership records. Bill is also available to assist you with inquiries regarding membership status. You can send him an email at ***bgraves180@aol.com*.**

Fred and Bill want to thank all of you who have renewed your NCNA membership in 2024 already! **Please consider sending in your 2024 renewal as soon as you can so that you'll continue to receive the NCNA Journal**.

PLEASE NOTE: Look at the MAILING ADDRESS LABEL on your JOURNAL envelope! The label shows the year that your NCNA membership dues are paid through. **If it indicates 2023 or before, your membership renewal is due now**. If it shows 2024 or after, your membership dues are good through that year.

Join the NCNA Facebook page at *www.facebook.com/NCCollector*

Visit the NCNA Website at www.NCNA.CLUB

Notes from the Editor's Desk

Welcome to another edition of the NCNA Journal. It is full of interesting and educational articles, as well as various collecting viewpoints!

We have a very nice article from Paul Horner this time entitled **"The Congressional Gold Medals Awarded to Orville and Wilbur Wright."** He highlights this historical event from the numismatic viewpoint.

Bill Graves goes ***"On the Record"*** by sharing his thoughts on the intriguing topic of ***United States pattern, experimental and trial pieces***.

Bob Pedolsky tackles the topic of collecting on a budget in this edition of ***Young Collectors News.*** Bob also highlights YN activities from the recent Charlotte Coin Club Show and NCNA Convention and Show.

The Ancient Guy, from Perry Siegel is another great article on coins. Have you ever heard of ***"The Gordiani?"*** Read on to learn more about this short lived dynasty during the days of the Roman Empire.

Duane Higgins is with us again, this time with an article on ***"Sales Tax Tokens"***, where he takes us back to a time when sales tax tokens were an important part of sales tax collection by states and municipalities.

Mark Benvenuto continues to focus on different ways to assemble collections with budgetary considerations in mind. This time he shares some thoughts on ***"Going for a Date Run of Barber Quarters"***.

In ***"Getting to Know Your Board"***, Perry Siegel highlights Wayne Williamson, a long-time member of the NCNA Board of Directors and coin and coin supply dealer.

"Look it up in the RED BOOK" challenges even the seasoned numismatists! Both questions and answers are included in this edition of the journal edition. Answers from the last edition (2023 N4) are included as well.

I think you will enjoy all of these articles. Let me know what you think. We're always looking for new articles, especially on unexplored topics! Let me know if you need help with submission of an article.

Best of luck to you all in the hobby!
Greg

The Congressional Gold Medals Awarded to Orville and Wilbur Wright

By Paul Horner

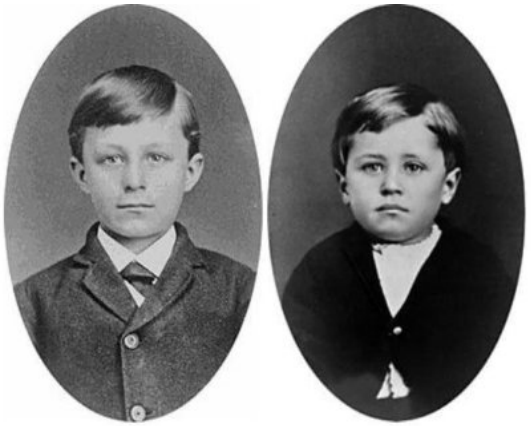


Image Public Domain
Wilbur (left) at 9 years old, Orville (right) at 4 years, 9 months.

On October 22, 1900 Wilbur Wright first flew as a pilot in a glider for a few flights. The Wrights' gliders were perfected over the next three years. Then, as every school kid knows, Orville Wright made the first powered flight in an aeroplane on December 17th, 1903 at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. Over the next few years, they polished their designs, and succeeded in building practical (for the day) aircraft. With this accomplishment in mind, it was…

"Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled That in recognition and appreciation of the great service of Orville Wright and Wilbur Wright, of Ohio, rendered the science of aerial navigation in the invention of the Wright aeroplane, and for their ability, courage, and success in navigating the air, the Secretary of War be, and he hereby is, authorized and directed to cause to be struck and presented to Orville Wright and Wilbur Wright appropriate gold medals with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by him; and that to enable the said Secretary to carry this resolution into effect a sufficient sum of money not to exceed three hundred dollars is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated."
Approved, March 4, 1909.

Image courtesy Tim Giambra.

The medals were quickly designed: the obverse shown here was designed by Charles Barber[1] showing the conjoined heads of Orville and Wilber. A small version of the Great Seal of the United States in a laurel wreath is at the upper right. The phrases "Resolution of Congress March 4 1909 and "In recognition and appreciation of their ability courage and success in navigating the air" finish off the design. One striking feature is that this medal is not round[2]!

Image courtesy Tim Giambra

The reverse, designed by George T. Morgan[3] shows a winged figure The Genius of Aviation in flight, with torch in hand, and the phrase "Shall mount up with wings as eagles." The medal measures approximately 3 1/8" x 2 3/16" x 3/16" thick. With the price of gold in 1909 at $20.67 per troy ounce, the pair of medals had an intrinsic value of exactly $247.86. This calculates that each gold medal contained 5.9956 ounces troy of fine gold (plus alloy.) You will recall that the original resolution stipulated that the cost could not exceed $300, so the price was right.

A three-day, city-wide celebration, the *Wright Brothers Homecoming Celebration* took place in Dayton, Ohio from the 17th through the 19th of June, 1909. On Friday the 18th at 10:30 AM the medals ceremony was held at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds. Brigadier General James Allen[4], Chief Signal Officer of the United States Army presented the brothers with their Congressional gold medals. They were then presented gold medals[5] awarded by an Act of the Ohio Legislature by Hon. Judson Harmon, Governor of the State of Ohio. When he attempted to remove the medals from their box, they were fastened in too tightly and it took him and his staff a few minutes to get them out. There was then a presentation of gold medals awarded by Act of the City (Dayton) Council[6], by Hon. Edward E. Burkhart, Mayor of the City of Dayton. A grand parade over 2 miles long followed at 2:30 PM.

Official U.S. Army Photograph

The general made the remark "that so far as he knew, the contract entered into by the Wright brothers for furnishing the Government with a heavier-than-air flying machine was the first public contract ever made by any government for aeronautical appliances of this kind." He concluded by "that to them is due the great credit of first publicly demonstrating to the world the practicability of dynamic flight." (The Numismatist, August 1909)

After all of the medals were awarded, Wilbur and Orville made a few closing remarks:

"It is naturally with a feeling of pride that we accept these tokens, and I wish to thank the people of the United States, of Ohio and of Dayton. It is sometimes said inventors usually do not receive the sympathy and encouragement which is their due. This cannot be said of us. Even in the infancy of our work we received offers of financial assistance from people who could have no hope of reward. The poets sometimes have occasion to complain of their lack of substantial sympathy, yet I have no doubt that if $1,000,000 would bring another Shakespeare or a Tennyson, the money would be forthcoming in this country within five minutes. If poets and inventors do not get their dues, it is rather because the world is unaware of their needs than because of indifference."

Wilbur Wright

"I wish our work was commensurate with the honors that have been heaped upon us. Thank you."
Orville Wright

Image Courtesy Stacks Bowers Galleries.

It's proven here that PCGS can stuff a silver rectangle into a circular hole. FH-639 refers to the catalog number in Medals of the United States Mint, see references). "AR" denotes silver.

Image courtesy Heritage Auctions.

We have all heard that "You can't put a square peg in a round hole!" Well, NGC managed to force a rectangle into one! This example is a typical bronze edition.

The two original Congressional *gold* medals awarded to Orville and Wilbur are in the Wright State University Collection. This collection is the largest repository of Wright memorabilia in the world. An extensive list of their holdings including these and many other medals and awards can be found online (see references.)

Stacks Bowers sold in their November 2023 auction, session 4, lot 4110 a *silver* example of this medal, Specimen-67 (PCGS). "…Only two silver impressions were made, however, and this is the first that we can recall offering. It is accompanied by the original cardboard box of issue, a sticker on the lid of which is printed WRIGHT BROS. AWARD / BY RESOLUTION OF CONGRESS / MARCH 4, 1909 / SIZE 52X36 [sic] * DESIGNER: MORGAN / .999 FINE SILVER – 5.90 OZ. / TWO MEDALS AUTHORIZED IN SILVER / AND STRUCK AT THE PHILA. MINT / - PROOF SET" (the box was not pictured.) $8,400.00

The Congressional medals were stuck off in bronze for sale through the U. S. Mint catalog. The earlier impressions may have a mahogany or bronzed finish, differing from the typical yellow 20th century mint medals. There are vague references to these medals in *original finish* in various auction catalogs. Most seen today are of the modern 20th century yellow bronze. A modern example can be found with little effort for under $100 (January 2024.) The 1972 Treasury Mint Medals book (see references) makes no mention of the two original gold impressions nor of the two struck in silver. No bronze mintage amounts nor details of any early bronze medal finishes are given in the references listed.

Notes:

1. Charles Edward Barber (1840-1917) was the 6th chief engraver of the United States Mint from 1879 until he died in 1917. He designed the *Barber* half dollar, quarter and dime variously struck from 1892 through 1916. Charles was the son of William Barber, the U. S. Mint's 5th chief engraver.
2. U.S. Mint medals are typically round, but there are exceptions: The Pierian Solality (a Harvard Club) had octagonal medals struck by the U. S. Mint in 1863 and 1873. The medals of Leslie M. Shaw, Secretary of the Treasury 1902-1907, George B. Cortelyou Secretary of the Treasury 1907-1909 and the 1901 and 1903-1909 Assay Commission medals are vertical rectangles. The 1907 World Cruise of Atlantic Squadron medal is tombstone shaped. Five Indian Peace medals are vertical ovals: Rutherford B. Hayes, James A. Garfield, Chester A. Author, Grover Cleveland, and Benjamin Harrison. (The original large oval George Washington Indian Peace medals were not Mint struck, they were individually hand engraved.) The 1976-1977 Assay Commission medals are horizontal ovals. There may be other non-round U.S. Mint medals.
3. George Thomas Morgan (1845-1925) served as the *assistant to the chief engraver*, Charles Barber. Upon Barber's death in 1917, Morgan became the 7th chief engraver. He is best known as the designer of the *Morgan Silver Dollar* struck from 1878 through 1921.
4. Brigadier General James Allen (1849-1933) was the first chief of the Aeronautical Division of the Army Signal Corps, predecessor to the modern-day air force. He became the Chief Signal Officer on February 10, 1906. It took him from 1907 to 1911 to convince Congress to approve $125,000 for the first aeroplanes for the fledgling Air Service. He is interred in Arlington National Cemetery.
5. The two medals bestowed by the State of Ohio were individually named for the brothers. The image of the medals is copyrighted but they can be seen here:

6. https://www.thewrightbrothersusa.com/blogs/the-wright-brothers-usa/a-month-in-the-life-of-the-wrights-june-1909
7. An image of the Dayton medal awarded to Wilber can be seen here: https://www.wright-brothers.org/TBR/History%20Images/1906-1909/1909%20Wright%20Medals.jpg

References:

Acts of the Sixtieth Congress of the United States (page) 1627 RESOLUTION. [No. 30.1 Joint Resolution A]

Failor, Kenneth M. & Hayden, Eleonora *Medals of the United States Mint*, revised 1972 Department of the Treasury

Julian, R.W. *Medals of the United States Mint The First Century 1792-1892* Token and Medal Society

Julian, R.W. and Keusch, Ernest E. *Medals of the United States Assay Commission 1860-1977* Token and Medal Society

Lee, Karen M. *The Private Sketchbook of George T. Morgan America's Silver Dollar Artist* © 2013 Whitman Publishing, LLC Atlanta GA

The Numismatist, August 1909, pages 231-232 (author not given)

Official Program of The Wright Brothers Home Celebration, Dayton Ohio, June 17 and 18, 1909 Library of Congress, https://www.loc.gov/resource/mss46706.05002332/?st=gallery

Dayton Daily News, June 16, 2023: 15 Reasons this famous 1909 Wright brothers' celebration was Dayton's biggest party ever

The Evening Tribune (San Diego, Ca.), June 18, 1909: Wright Brothers are Recipients of Medals-Dayton Aviators Honored by Government, State and City

Wright State University, University Libraries: This is a listing of 49 medals and trophies gifted to the Wright Brothers medals in their collection: https://wright.libraryhost.com/repositories/2/archival_objects/221080

Stacks Bowers Auctions, November 2023 Auction, Session 4 – Numismatic Americana – Lot 4110

Are you a young numismatist or do you know a young numismatist who might be interested in applying for the

NCNA YN Scholarship?

Please contact Bob Pedolsky, NCNA YN Coordinator:

rpedolsky@carolina.rr.com.

ON THE RECORD

By Bill Graves

Hard to believe that it is 2024, but here we are. Had a great show in Orlando, FL at the annual Winter FUN (Jan. 4-7, 2024). What a great kick-off to the numismatic calendar. A bit of a downer, though, as the retail trade has really shrunk, as most of my sales were to high end collectors, looking to fill difficult holes in their collections, and dealers attending to customer want lists.

Last time we did a wrap on Volume II of Q. David Bowers' "Silver Dollars & Trade Dollars of the United States, A Complete Encyclopedia". This time we jump into a new category for me: **United States Pattern, Experimental and Trial pieces.**

This is truly a fascinating category in the numismatic realm, as it explores what might have been, could have been, and dreams not fulfilled of many chief engravers losing the debate on final designs.

Let's start with a little background and then delve into some key events that shaped this world. Books referenced were by Edgar H. Adams, William H. Woodin, and later by Dr. J. Hewitt Judd, both of similar titles.

"Coins are the metallic footprints of nations". Often through changes of the designs of the coinage of a country many elements of its mood and historical culture can be traced. Pattern pieces incorporate the many metallic attempts of the designers of the mint to produce a coin containing a new suggestion in the way of a device, a motto, or a plan of coinage. Through the study of these many pieces, one may trace the development of many of the familiar coin designs which long have been circulated throughout the country.

Many of the pieces included in this work have been struck from the regular dies in metals other than those intended for the regular issue, and as such are termed trial pieces. Each year it is common to strike a number of test specimens from the regular dies in various base metals, usually copper or aluminum. All said, often times the best efforts of our engravers have been mostly rejected and in some instances the poorest of designs were actually adopted. Let's roll through history a bit to highlight some of the key moments in time.

1792

Quite a number of pattern coins were made at the mint in that year, the most important of which were the "disme" and half-disme. The latter piece is said to have been the first pattern coin made at the mint and

was of particular significance, as the metal used for the coin was derived from a melted plate from that of President George Washington himself. The well-known silver center cent was also, made at the mint at this time. The small plug of silver inserted in the center evidently was intended to bring the intrinsic value of the coin up to the exact value of one cent.

1861

The pattern coins containing the various forms of the now familiar motto "In God We Trust" are of exceptional interest. Although the first coin to go into circulation with this motto was the bronze two-cent piece of 1864, still the mint engravers had experimented with it as early as 1861. The pattern pieces of this part of the sixties show several mottoes showing the efforts of the engravers to arrive at an acceptable one. The first pieces to show an adaptation of it were the half dollar and the gold eagle of 1861, with the motto reading "God Our Trust". In 1862 the same motto was placed upon pattern pieces of similar denomination, and in 1863 a

The Washington 2 cents pattern of 1863 was the first coin to picture an American president.

pattern two-cent piece was made at the mint bearing the bust of Washington on the obverse, above which was the motto "God and Our Country". A companion two-cent piece dated 1863 also was struck. This bore on the obverse a shield similar to the one adopted for general circulation in 1864, and on this coin was the motto "God Our Trust". It was not until 1865 that congress provided for the placing of the motto upon the United States coins of the silver and gold denominations. Quite a number of pattern double eagles, eagles, half eagles, in gold, silver, and copper were made with the motto "In God We Trust". Also, the silver dollar, half, and quarter dollar of 1864 and 1865, which are known in silver, copper, and aluminum. Still another adaptation of the motto shown on five-cent pattern piece of 1867, which was an Indian Princess Head with the motto "Union and Liberty".

1877

In this year was struck at the mint two of the rarest and most interesting pattern coins of the whole series. They were of a denomination higher than any coin of regular issue, being of fifty-dollar value, and are

FIFTY DOLLARS! The Judd-1546 and the similar J-1548 coins struck in gold are both unique and reside in the Smithsonian. Copper and copper gilt examples are in the marketplace and bring 6 figure prices.

regarded by all collectors as the most desirable coins ever issued at the United States Mint. Each of these gold pieces is of distinctive design, being the work of William Barber, and both are exactly two inches in diameter and one-eighth of an inch in thickness. They should not be confused with the fifty-dollar pieces issued in California, dated respective: 1851, 1852, and 1855. The ones dated 1851 and 1852, octagonal in shape, are of a semi-official character, having been issued by the Government assaying contracting firm of Moffat & Co. It should be noted that before the establishment of the United States branch mint at San Francisco in 1854 the Californians had to rely upon gold dust and the coins made by private persons for their circulating medium.

1879

The most noted coin of the metric series of pattern pieces of 1879 was the "Stella" or four-dollar gold piece. This was at a time when there was a debate on whether or not to adopt a gold composition planchet. Several varieties of the four-dollar piece were made in 1879 and 1880, being the work of Charles E. Barber. The coins were struck in gold, copper, aluminum, and white metal. In the same year the dies were made for a metric twenty-dollar piece, from which a very limited number of specimens in gold and copper were struck. The important debate of the time was whether to adopt the metric system, as it was an almost perfect measure for the $20 Gold piece

i.e. gold content was an even 30 grams, silver was an even 1.5 grams, the copper content was an even 3.5 grams. The gold therefore, standard .900 fine and the silver is .900 in the coin, the total weight resulted in an even 35 grams, and it equated to precisely $35 in value at the time. Regardless of all of the advantages, neither the gold metal nor the metric composed coins were ever adopted for regular use.

1881

In 1881 there appeared three pattern pieces of the denomination of one, three, and five cents, the obverse of each showing the head of Liberty as borne by the first five-cent nickel "without cents" that was struck for regular circulation in 1883. These pieces were struck in nickel and copper, and were examples of a system of minor coinage. The five cent piece then in circulation contained 27 grains in excess of its due proportion of metal as compared with the nickel three- cent coin, although the alloy was the same. The plan was to have minor coins struck in an alloy consisting of 75 per cent copper and 25 per cent nickel. This was recommended, as it was the best alloy, which did not oxidize, retained its color, was without odor, it was clean, and it was easily worked. Best of all, it was thought to be difficult to counterfeit.

1906

Only one pattern coin is accredited to 1906. When St. Gaudens was at work on the new designs for the United States ten and twenty-dollar gold pieces, engraver Charles E. Barber engraved the dies for a twenty-dollar gold piece of a very attractive design. The face of Liberty on the obverse was of much more feminine character than usually shown on our coins, and the reverse bore a striking design, showing an aggressive eagle, standing on the ground, with partly opened wings, behind a standing female figure of Liberty. Back of Liberty was a radiation in which extended across the field, and between the points of the radiation was the motto, "In God We Trust". The edge of this coin showed a number of stars in high relief, and two specimens of this pattern double eagle, were made one in gold and the other in base metal. These were later to be seen in a coin collection highlighted at the Philadelphia Mint.

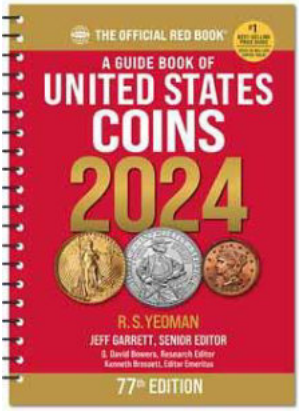
To wrap up, this is obviously only a small sampling of the story regarding the topic at hand. The books cited here where from bygone days, but they do sufficiently cover the early period of the U.S. Mint in a way that Frames the category very well. I would encourage you to pick-up a book on the topic to fill in any gaps, as technology changes so will Patterns, Trials, and Experimental pieces.

Next time, we'll look at Encased Postage Stamps.

All image courtesy of Heritage Auctions.

Look it up in the RED BOOK

Look it up in the RED BOOK" is a column that will test your knowledge of U.S. coins using R.S. Yeoman's well known "A Guide Book of United States Coins - **THE OFFICIAL RED BOOK"**. The intent of this column is to challenge journal readers with questions that can be answered in this great reference on U.S. coins. Just for fun in your spare time, see if you can find the answers to the ten questions below. The correct answers for them can be found on page 43 in this edition of the NCNA Journal.



1. What coins have hogs on them?
2. What was cut down and used as planchets for 1795 & 1797 half cents?
3. Where might you encounter a Spiked Chin?
4. What is a "Stella" and what does 'Stella" mean in Latin?
5. What are Bingles?
6. Where might you encounter a Serpent Head?
7. What coin was called a "quint" and what were they made of?
8. What is a Slug?
9. What is a Cinquefoil?
10. When were the first United States silver dollars struck?

Questions & Answers for NCNA Journal 2023 N4

(Answers from the 2024 RED BOOK):

1. How many stars are on the reverse of the 1836 silver dollar?
   26 (page 229-230).
2. How many stars are on the obverse of the 1836 silver dollar?
   Zero (page 229-230).
3. Who was Joseph T. Robinson and what coin is he on?
   Senator from Arkansas. On 1936 Arkansas Centennial - Robinson half dollar. Living when the coins were struck (page 310).
4. What was the first $20 coins struck for circulation in the United States?
   Mormon 1849 Twenty Dollars (page 420).
5. Name two coins with a silver plug inserted in them by the US mint.
   1792 silver center cent (page 86).
   A few 1794 & 1795 dollars (page 225).

6. Without peeking! How many links are on the chain on the 1793 chain cent? 15 (page 94).
7. How many links are on the chain of a Fugio cent? 13 (page 84).
8. How man links are on the chain of a Continental Currency "dollar"? 13 (page 51).
9. What US coin has the most stars?
   1794 starred reverse cent had 94 stars (page 95-96).
10. What is a "Fasces" and what two US coins have it depicted?
    A Fasces is a bundle of wooden rods with an ax in the middle, usually with the blade emerging. It is on the reverse of the Mercury Dime (page 155) and on the reverse of the 1936 Battle of Gettysburg Anniversary half dollar (page 316).
11. Which colonial issue was struck in pure tin?
    American Plantation Coins, 1/24 part real. Originals struck in 1688. Restrikes were made about 1828 (page 38).
12. The initials "V.D.B." were removed from the reverse of the Lincoln cent in 1909. When were they added back to the Lincoln cent and where were they placed on the design?
    1918 on the truncation of Lincoln's bust (page 114).

The ***2024 Edition of the RED BOOK*** can be purchased at most coin shops and coins shows.

In the News – Did You Know?

CDN Publishing, LLC, the numismatic data company that publishes the wholesale-pricing *Greysheet* and other resources, **acquired Whitman Publishing**. Included in the acquisition are the Whitman brands H.E. Harris & Co. (stamps), Cowens (supplies), and the Whitman Coin and Collectibles Expo. The deal was finalized on October 31, 2023. Management and staffing of both companies will remain in place, with main offices in Alabama and Virginia.

Whitman Publishing is the world's leading producer of numismatic reference books and supplies to display and store coins and paper money. Whitman is the Official Supplier of the congressionally chartered American Numismatic Association. CDN Publishing, previously branded as Coin Dealer Newsletter, has published *Greysheet* coin pricing continuously since 1963. Today, its products cover colonial, U.S. federal, and world numismatics with print and digital access.

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Collecting Quality and History On a Budget

By Bob Pedolsky

Hello YNs of all ages and welcome to spring, with coin shows blooming throughout the state. If you are either a YN or an adult, there are ways to collect quality coins on a budget. It could consist of a wonderful collection of unusual coins that are historic and tell a story of U.S. coinage.

Let's start with the basics. All collectors should have a "Guide Book of United States Coins", also known as the "Red Book". The cost is less than $20 and, if you use the information it contains, you will save multiples of that price by the knowledge you will gain.

There are many ways to collect coins that are available to all collectors. Collecting by date and mint mark or "type" are two of the most popular ways. But, for this article, we will put together a collection that is out of the box (or coin album)!

First, the parameters: the collection would consist of 20 coins. This would be over time, let's say one year, with a budget of $175-$225 for YNs and $375-$400 for adults. The prices are those in the 2024 Red Book.
Let's begin.

First, a large cent from the 1840s or 1850s. Most people never knew that the U. S. Mint produced these wonderful copper coins. A nice good or very-good example would cost a YN $20-30. It would cost an adult in fine-very fine $50-60.

The next three cents for the collection are an Indian Head Cent from 1890-1909, (the common dates), Lincoln Cent 1909-VDB, and a 1943 steel cent. All coins with interesting histories. The cost for a YN for all three, $6-$15 in fine or better condition. For an adult, $25 in XF or slightly better condition.

The next two coins are the obsolete copper, the Two Cent piece, and a nickel Three Cent piece. YN cost in good plus, $30-40. Adult cost $60 in VF.

For the five cent pieces, we have a "V" nickel from 1892-1912, (the common dates), 1913 type-1 Buffalo Nickel, and a 1942-45 Silver War Nickel. Three coins with fascinating histories. YN cost VG to VF, $10-$20. Adult cost, VF-AU, $40.

Moving on to dimes, just two for our set as of now - a Barber Dime (any common date) and a Mercury Dime. A nice choice would be either from the World War I or World War II period. They would only cost a YN $5-$10 in VG-VF and an adult $20-$25 in FV-MS-60.

Now for coins 12-14, the quarters. Common date Barber and Standing Liberty will cost a YN $20-$25 in VG and F condition. For an adult, in slightly better condition, $35-$40. A 1932 Washington Quarter celebrating the 200th anniversary of his birth, will cost $8 for a YN in VF and $16 for an adult for an AU.

The Half Dollars piggy-back the quarters – Barber, a Walking Liberty and a Ben Franklin. The three halves will cost a YN in G, XF, and UNC, $40-$55 and an adult $75 in slightly better condition.

The last individual coin is the 1892 or 1893 Columbian Exposition Half Dollar - $18 in AU for a YN $30 for an adult in UNC.

Items 19 and 20 are sets: 1965 Special Mint Set and 1968-S Clad Proof Set. They will run both YNs and adults $26.

That is 20 coins and sets with a wonderful combination of designs, history, and uniqueness. They tell the great story of U.S. coinage on a low budget of $183-$247 for YNs and $377-$397 for adults. Using the Red Book for pricing gives us some wiggle room! Most dealers will give a better price to YNs. So that cost of $183 on the low end and $247 on the high end will be more budget friendly. For any adult who has a good relationship with a dealer, that $377-$397 will also come down.

With a larger budget, other coins such as Half-Cents, Twenty Cent pieces, Dollars, and gold can be added. For a modest amount, coins such as a Proof or Uncirculated Bicentennial Set, can be added for $20, a Westward Journey Nickel set, or a 2009 Lincoln Bicentennial set for less than $5.

You can substitute any coins to fit your budget and parameters. You can also use rare dates or higher grades to make this an extremely expensive set. The point is making any collection yours and have fun building it and showing it off!

Charlotte Coin Club Annual Show YN Report

By Bob Pedolsky

The Charlotte Coin Club (CCC) held its 54th annual show February 9 and 10th with 140 dealer tables. This year the YN Treasure Hunt theme was Money of the Civil War, with over 60 YNs and 15 Scouts participating.

Prize bags contained items from the U. S. Mint, including pencils, bookmarks, coloring books, coin holders' stickers, etc. Also, in every bag, YNs received either a Proof or Uncirculated Set. From previous donations received last year, there was either a run of Roosevelt dimes, Jefferson nickels, or proof Jefferson nickels. Also included were, Indian Head cents, Wheat cents, V nickels, Buffalo nickels, other U.S. coins, various tokens, world coins, and paper money. The Treasure Chest was filled with world coins. For the first time, we had a box of world paper money that the YNs gravitated to. The Lincoln Wheat cent table was a great success, with many YNs filling the Whitman folder # 2, 1941-1958. The Scout program had 15 scouts receiving merit badges. A YN raffle was attended by 10 YNs. The prizes included NGC proof Franklin half dollars, commemoratives (both classic and modern), type coins, U. S. proof sets, and world proof sets, all ranging from $15-30 in value.

A total of $1031 cash was raised to support the CCC YN program. Also, dealers donated many coins including Peace Dollars and Silver Eagles.

COIN SHOW CALENDAR

Please note that shows listed below are subject to change or cancellation. Be sure to check for updates for these shows with show promoters or on the NCNA Website prior to attending:
www.NCNA.club

NC

Apr. 6-7 **Sa: 10a-5p** **Su:10a-4p**	**Wilmington, NC** *Annual N.C. Azalea Festival Coin Show* Elks Lodge 5102 Oleander Drive Contact: Don Butler – 910.612.3766
Apr. 13 **Sa: 9a-4p**	**Lexington, NC** *Eagle Coin Club Coin Show* Davidson County Recreation Dept. - West Campus 555-D West Center St. Ext.- Building D (Gym), 27295 Contact: David Fine – 336.267.3638
May 4-5 **Sa: 10a-5p** **Su: 10a-3p**	**Fayetteville, NC** (also Dec 7-8) *Cape Fear Coin Club Show* Honeycutt Recreation Center 352 Devers Street, 28303 Contact: Jim Dimmick – 910.322.3117
Jun. 1 **Sa: 10a-6p**	**Marion, NC** *1st Annual NC Gold Festival Coin and Currency Show* Lucky Strike Gold & Gem Mine 251 Lucky Strike Drive, 28752 Contact: Jeff Hicks – 828.460.7867
Jun. 21-23 **Fr: 10a-6p** **Sa: 10a-5p** **Su: 10a-3p**	**Raleigh, NC** *Raleigh Money Expo – by Raleigh Coin Club* North Carolina State Fairgrounds EXPO Center 4285 Trinity Road, 27607 Contact: Paul Landsberg – 919.247.1982
Aug. 10-11 **Sa: 10a-5p** **Su: 10a-3p**	**Statesville, NC** *28th Annual Iredell-Statesville Coin Club Show* Statesville Civic Center 300 South Center Street, 28677 Contact: Bill Brewer - 704.450.1639
Oct. 4-6 **Fr: 10a-6p** **Sa: 10a-6p** **Su: 10a-3p**	**Concord, NC** ***NCNA 61st Annual Convention and Show*** **Cabarrus Arena and Events Center** **4751 Highway 49 North, 28025** **Contact: Perry Siegel – 704.488.4787**

Attention show promoters!

Send in your show information for the NCNA Journal to *ghcheek@earthlink.net* at least four months ahead of time.

SC

May 10-11 **Fr: 9a-5p** **Sa: 9a-5p**	**Columbia , SC** *Midlands Coin Club Spring Coin Show* Embassy Suites Hotel 200 Stoneridge Drive, 29210 Contact: Mike Smith – 803.250.5610
Jul. 26-28 **Fr: Noon-5p** **Sa: 9a-5p** **Su: 10a-3p**	**Charleston, SC** *Low Country Summer Coin Show* Exchange Park Fairgrounds 9850 Hwy. 78, 29456 Contact: Richard Smith – 843.797.1245
Oct. 24-26 **Th: 10a-6p** **Fr: 10a-6p** **Sa: 10a-4p**	**Greenville, SC** *SCNA 52nd Annual Convention and Show* Greenville Convention Center 1 Exposition Drive, 29607 Contact: Bill Latour – 843.532.5089

VA

Apr. 27-28 **Sa: 10a-6p** **Su: 10a-4p**	**Vienna, VA** (also Aug. 3-4, Nov. 2-3) *Vienna Coin and Stamp Show* Vienna Community Center 120 Cherry Street, 22180 Contact: Darren Coker – 703.532.6640
May 9-11 **Th: 10a-6p** **Fr: 10a-6p** **Sa: 10a-5p**	**Richmond, VA** *Richmond Coin and Currency Show* ACCA Shriners Center 1712 Bellevue Avenue, 23227 Contact: Bill Scott – 804.350.1140
Jun. 1-2 **Sa: 9:30a-5:30p** **Su: 9:30a-3:30p**	**Salem, VA** (also Aug. 24-25, Nov. 2-3) *Salem/Roanoke Valley Coin Shows* *A*merican Legion Post #3 710 Apperson Drive Contact: Will Camp – 540.943.2267
July 27-28 **Sa: 10a-6p** **Su: 10a-4p**	**Annandale, VA** (also Dec. 14-15) *Annandale Coin Show* Northern Virginia Community College, Ernst Community Cultural Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike, 22003 Contact: Wayne Herndon – 703.385.0058

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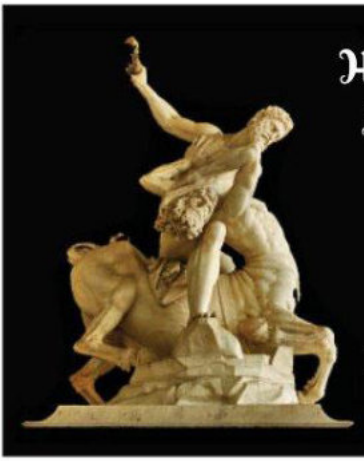

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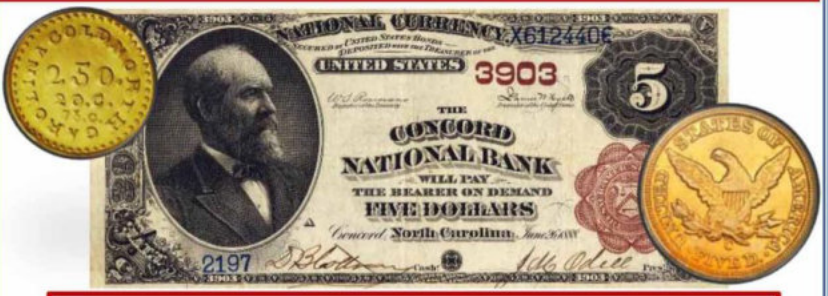

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The Gordiani

By Perry Siegel

The Gordian dynasty was a rather short-lived dynasty occurring in the third century under the Roman Empire, composed of Gordian I, II, and III. It began in A.D. 238 during the early stages of what has become known as The Third Century Crisis. This nearly fifty-year period saw the Romans struggle to preserve their state and way of life. It was characterized by constant invasions, the rise of the Sasanian Empire, natural disasters such as plagues, and most critically military anarchy. The lack of a formal succession plan for emperors led to the army becoming the most powerful entity as evidenced by the myriad of assassinations at their hands. During this period there were at least 26 claimants to the throne!

The Gordian dynasty was formed when Gordian I and his son Gordian II rebelled against then emperor Maximinus I Thrax, a cruel and ruthless ruler who had reigned for approximately three years. Gordian I was of advanced age, eighty years old at the time, so the Roman Senate proclaimed him and his son co-emperors. Gordian I Africanus was governor of Africa, and was perhaps the wealthiest man in all the Empire at that time, but was also a person of great integrity. He loved philosophy and literature, and even wrote 30 books on the lives of Antoninus Pius and Marcus Aurelius. Gordian II did not share his father's high integrity however. Rather, he was quite fond of women, taking on as many as twenty-two mistresses, all of whom he fathered children with. They tragically co-ruled for only twenty days when Gordian II was murdered in battle over a grudge, and Gordian I killed himself upon hearing of his son's murder.

What is most interesting about the coinage of Gordian I and II, which are very rare due to their brief reign, is that their obverse legends are identical. The only method to distinguish between their coins is to decipher the differences in their portraits. Opposite of what one might expect, the elder Gordian is the one with a full head of hair, while the

younger Gordian displays a receding hairline and more prominent forehead. Also, Gordian II presents a fleshier appearance than his father's thin face, no doubt due to his rather party-like lifestyle.

Silver denarii of Gordian I (left) and II (right) displaying the difference in their portraiture.

Following the deaths of Gordian I and II, the Roman Senate proclaimed two elderly senators, Balbinus and Pupienus, joint emperors. In a prudent move by Balbinus and Pupienus, they declared the youngster Gordian III, grandson of Gordian I and nephew of Gordian II, Caesar shortly after the death of his grandfather and uncle. Gordian III was a favorite of both the people and the Praetorian Guard in Rome. However, this move did not spare them their lives, as the people and Praetorian Guard did not trust them and the soldiers ultimately murdered them both after a short, approximately three-month reign. This opened the door for the return of the Gordiani to the number one seat. Gordian III was declared emperor at the ripe age of thirteen! Too young to truly rule at that age, his mother and then later his father-in-law, the Praetorian Prefect Timesitheus, ran the government. Gordian even took Timesitheus' daughter Tranquillina as his bride.

Of particular interest, several changes occurred in the coinage under Gordian III. The Roman provincial tetradrachm, a coin equivalent to four drachmae, was reintroduced after having been abandoned upon the death of the emperor Elagabalus in A.D. 222. The production of tetradrachms

Silver denarius of Gordian III as Caesar struck under the co-reign of Balbinus and Pupienus are less common. Note the legend ending in CAES, abbreviation for Caesar.

continued to be widely produced until 253. The antoninianus, or double-denarius, an inflationary coin introduced by Caracalla in A.D. 214, then abandoned under Elagabalus in A.D. 222, was also reintroduced by Gordian III. The denarius all but disappeared after Gordian's reign, with any subsequent examples being extremely rare. It was brought back to life briefly by Aurelian in A.D. 270, but was basically a bronze denarius. Coin quality greatly suffered under Gordian III and remained so during the crisis period. Silver content was way down. The lack of uniformity in coin weight was also significant. Interestingly, the eastern mints consistently produced heavier coins with more pure silver than those struck in Rome. The antoininiani minted in Antioch for example had an average silver content of 43.5 percent, while those minted in Rome averaged 36.8 percent silver fineness. As a result, the Antioch mint became more important under Gordian III.

Tetradrachm of Gordian III minted in Antioch, Syria.

Silver denarius (left) and antoninianus, a double denarius (right) under Gordian III.

Gordian III's downfall likely began when he accompanied Timesitheus on a campaign against the Persians. The Prefect supposedly died of an illness although his death was more likely orchestrated by Philip I the Arab, who then replaced him as Prefect. It is also believed that Philip betrayed Gordian III by rousing the army against him. Whatever the truth may be, Philip I ultimately ascended to the imperial throne in A.D 244, signaling the end of the Gordiani. Despite its brevity, the Gordian dynasty left an indelible mark on Roman history.

All images courtesy of Classical Numismatic Group.

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Sales Tax Tokens

Duane A. Higgins

What two things are sure in life? Death and taxes. Unfortunately or perhaps fortunately, most of us are still paying taxes. Let's hope that death is at least a little way off.

The idea of taxing sales is not a new idea. Sales taxes by various names, can be traced back to Greece and Rome in the 5th and 4th centuries B.C. The earliest known formal laws in Europe were passed in 1292 by France of 1/2% to be collected on the sale of all goods except food.

Sales Taxes in the United States were first proposed in 1862 during the Civil War. The Union government struggled with finding a way to pay for what appeared to be a long and expensive civil war. The proposal was for a 1% National tax. The tax bill was tabled and never acted upon. Then in 1921 a national sales tax of 1% was again proposed to help pay for the debt incurred during World War I. Again this measure was defeated, but not before tokens had already been produced. The tokens were supposedly all destroyed.

Modern State Sales Tax Tokens were made in large quantities starting around 1935 in order to give change for sales taxes. It seems trivial in today's economy, but during this depression period, every cent was important to both merchants and customers. An item priced at $1.25 taxed at 3% would cost $1.2875 or $1.28 and ¾ cent. Rounding up to $1.29 would result in an "unfair" profit to the seller of ¼ cent, but rounding down would be an "unfair" cost to the merchant of ¾ cent. What should be done? The solution was to provide tokens denominated in fractions of a cent or "mills" (1 mill = 1000^{th} of a dollar or 1/10 of a cent) that could be used to make "change" for the fraction of a cent.

Approximately 500 different "coin like" tax tokens were issued by twelve different states: Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Illinois, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Utah and Washington state. They were made of aluminum, copper, zinc, brass, plastic (in multiple colors), fiber, cardboard and paper. One (1) and five (5) mill tokens are the most common denominations but other denominations include 1/5 cent, 1 1/2 mills and "Tax on 10 cents or less".

In 1921 West Virginia was the first state to pass legislation for a sales tax. In 1929 Georgia passed similar legislation but neither took the time

to figure out how to enforce or implement the system, so there was no progress.

In 1933 eleven states passed legislation for sales tax and by 1940, over 30 states had enacted legislation and systems for sales tax collection due to the success of the early programs at generating revenue for the state. April 1 to May 10, 1933 Kewanee, IL was the first city in the nation to produce and use sales tax tokens for a 3% tax. It is 16 mm in diameter and made of copper. The Illinois state supreme court struck its use down and they were removed from circulation just a few weeks after issue. That same year on July 1, a 2% sales tax was passed and the tokens again circulated.

Michigan and California passed similar legislation in 1933, followed by Ohio in 1934. In 1935 Washington State caused a stir when their tax laws were passed and implemented on May 21, 1935. The US government and treasury department filed suit against the state of Washington claiming the use of sales tax tokens as an assault on US coinage. The governor of Washington refused to back down and the issue was tabled by the government.

On July 2, 1935 the Illinois state government issued state tax tokens and the local tokens were slowly removed from circulation. July 10th just eight days later the state of Illinois was asked to cease the distribution of its round tokens because they were too much like US dimes. The state was forced to change their design. This resulted in the production of square pieces 16mm x 16mm.

On July 22nd the United States government backed by President Roosevelt and Treasury Secretary Henry Morgantheu proposed a ½ cent and a 1/10th cent coin in copper and aluminum respectively. These coins were never produced and the idea was effectively abandoned on August 21st.

In late July New Mexico issued its tokens that it had held awaiting the US government resolution. In August, Missouri issued its Milk-Cap tokens (called this because they resembled a milk cap and were produced in Kansas City by a prominent milk bottle cap manufacturer.) On September 1 Colorado issued their tokens. In all, 12 states issued sales tax tokens. Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, North Carolina and Michigan issued paper stamp or punch card systems that are not considered to be part of the 12 state token issues.

Even when some state governments refused to issue sales tax tokens, many businesses issued them on their own to help their customers (e.g., California). Local issues are primarily associated with Washington and Illinois, but several other states including Kansas had a few.

Kansas was the first state to suspend the token usage in July 1939 and Missouri was the last state to repeal the use of sales tax tokens from the books in 1961. Being a native of Kansas and some of these tokens were part of my parent's estate, I have done additional research on the tokens used in Kansas.

Sales tax came to Kansas relatively late. Democratic Governor Walter A. Huxman proposed the Retailers' Sales Tax Act of 1937. Signed into law on April 9, 1937 provided *"Said metal tokens shall be made from Kansas zinc, if practicable, and shall be manufactured by the superintendent of the Kansas state industrial reformatory; script (sic), if used, shall be printed by the superintendent of the Kansas state industrial reformatory at the reformatory."* After initial activity to set up token production at the reformatory in Hutchison, it became apparent that production schedules could not be met so a $50,000 contract was let by the Superintendent with Osborne Register Company of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Tokens were distributed from the State Tax Commission in Topeka in multiples of 500 to be delivered in person or shipped to the retailer F.O.B. Topeka. These tokens were commonly referred to as "Huxies" by Kansas consumers - a dubious tribute to the Governor. During the summer of 1937, transition was made to making the tokens of aluminum and making a 1 mill token with a round hole in the center.

In November 1938 a Republican Governor was elected, having promised to end the use of the hated "Huxies". That legislation was passed and effective July 1, 1939, tax tokens were no longer used in Kansas.

Altogether, an estimated 30.9 million 2 mill tokens and 21.2 million 1 mill tokens were produced for use in Kansas.

References:

United States Sales Tax Tokens and Stamps by Malehorn and Davenport

taxtoken.org

Going for a Date Run of Barber Quarters

By Mark Benvenuto

There are plenty of collectors out there who have taken the time to assemble some type of collection of Barber half dollars. They are the biggest of the Barber trio; and we as a society or group of collectors do seem to really enjoy big silver. But that means the Barber quarters may be somewhat overlooked, staying out of any limelight, at least in the bigger scheme of things. And that in turn means there might be a fun challenge in assembling some type of set of them.

The Rarities

This 1901-S in MS67 condition brought $120,000.

The Barber quarters do not have any of the high-end, screaming rarities that we associate with some of the other series of United States classic coins, like the 1916-D Mercury dime, or the 1916 Standing Liberty quarter. But there is a quartet of dates which are pretty much in the zone we all would call rare. They are the 1896-S, the 1897-S, the 1901-S, and the 1913-S. In a way this is curious, since the 1897-S has an official tally of 542,229 pieces – not really all that small, and certainly not as small as some of the key dates in other series. But whatever the case, any sort of collection of these twenty-five cent pieces that we can put together will probably have to omit these four.

Philadelphia

For much of the duration of the Barber quarter series, the main Mint in Philadelphia saw impressive outputs each year. The very first year of issue, 1892, saw a whopping 8.2 million coined for circulation. That number ruled the roost for a few years, but was surpassed in 1898, when the folks in Philly pounded out 11.1 million. The very next year, 1899, saw just over 12.6 million come off the presses in Philadelphia. And while that became the

1898 is a common date - plentiful in uncirculated.

highest single mintage for the entire series, there were several more years when totals were well into the millions. Perhaps obviously, this means there are a bunch of very common Barber quarters.

An Almost Complete Date Run

It seems that some sort of date run might be assembled, especially if we opt to lean on the Barber quarters that came from the main Mint facility. There is one fly in the ointment here, and that is the 1913. This is the scarce one, since there were only 484,000 of them produced. But even this number does not make it all that costly. Speaking of costs, since we have gotten to this point, depending on what grade we wish to go after, the Barber quarters can be an expensive undertaking, or one that qualifies as pretty cheap.

If we want to opt for Barber quarters in mint state grades, such as MS-64 or even MS-65, we'll need to brace ourselves for some sticker shock. That super-common 1899 for example, lists for $8,000 in MS-65, although only half of that for a single step down to an MS-64. It's a fair bet to say that most of us don't normally ante up that much for a single coin, even if it is a classic piece of United States silver. It's also a fair bet that any of us who choose either of these grades will want to make sure we are purchasing one that has been encapsulated by one of the big, well-established, third-party grading services. No one wants to shell out that much money for a purchase only to be told when we decide to sell that it is worth only half of what we paid.

A much more palatable way to dive into the Barber quarters is to look at pieces in grades such as very fine, VF-20, or extra fine, EF-40. This is where quite a few of them cost a bit less than $100. It's definitely easier on the wallet to pony up something like $75 for a handsome piece that has only a bit of wear on it than it is to dig considerably deeper in our pockets for what is needed to cover any of the mint state grades. When it comes to the Philadelphia issues, this will get us pretty close to a complete date run.

1914-S is a semi-key date, but attainable in VF.

For those of us who want to build a collection of these twenty-five cent pieces, but do so on a shoestring budget, well, that too can be done. Plenty of the common dates among these Barbers can be had in grades

such as very good, VG-8, or fine, F-12, for less than $20. Yes, they will have some wear on them. But scouting about for examples that still have some eye appeal can be a good use of our time. They end result can still be an attractive collection.

A Proof?

Long before the Mint got into what is now the big arena of proof sets and annual issues, it was producing a limited number of proofs, and selling them to wealthy collectors. There are a few proof Barber quarters available for every year of issue, with the exception of the 1916, that final year. Back then these proofs were always produced in Philly. Today the major price lists do provide a cost for each of them, even in what might be considered the odd grade of PF-63. What is interesting here is that no matter how many or few of these proofs were made for a specific year, the PF-63 costs about $850. Even that 1913 we mentioned rings in at this price.

Cost of a 1913 is comparable to other proof dates.

While this price tag is far lower than the MS-64 and MS-65 sticker we just mentioned, it may still be far more than what some of us ever pay for a single coin. That's understandable. But since the total for any of these proofs is about one thousand pieces, if there is ever a coin for which we might save up, this is it. These appear to be quite undervalued.

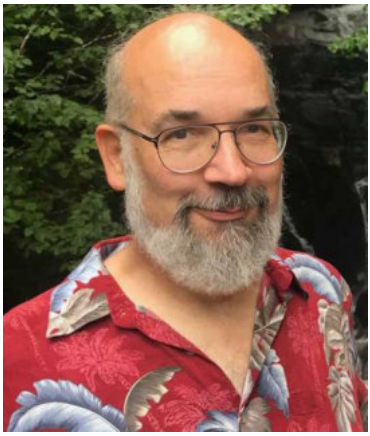
Overall

The Barber quarters may indeed be in the shadows of their bigger sibling, the Barber half dollars. But there are some intriguing possibilities here for those of us who might choose to build a good-looking collection for ourselves. A date run is one of them.

All image courtesy of Heritage Auctions.

Getting to Know Your NCNA Board

By Perry Siegel



Wayne Williamson has been a board member since 2017. You can't miss him, typically dressed in a Hawaiian shirt, selling numismatic supplies at shows throughout North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. Wayne's interest began with coins at the ripe age of seven years old in his hometown of Michigan. He would buy coins, take them to Boy Scout meetings, and sell them to his friends! Wayne's entrepreneurial skills coins earned him a job at twelve years old working for a coin dealer who lived down the street. Wayne would assist the dealer at shows, servicing customers and providing a second set of eyes. Eventually, the job evolved into buying and selling coin supplies such as coin tubes and Whitman folders. Wayne remained with that dealer until he went off to college, attending the Ohio Institute of Technology.

Wayne moved to Fort Wayne, Indiana after college. He briefly ran a coin business named The Barber Shop Coins for a couple of years in the late 1970s. However, by now he had begun his career job as a computer programmer which required him to be available every other weekend. Not a good match for attending coin shows! Wayne continues to this day to work for the same company where he writes software which provides user interface to manage equipment that the company sells. He is one of a just a handful of employees who have been there since the early days, although the company has changed hands six different times through the years!

A move to Raleigh, North Carolina took place in 1982 when an opening within the company surfaced. Fast forward to 1995 when Wayne created Barber Shop Coins once again. A friend's father had passed away and agreed to have Wayne liquidate the very large collection. That year he set up at his first show in Raleigh. The collection took three years to sell off, so by then Wayne had established himself and the journey began. It wasn't until the year 2000 that a shift to specializing in selling numismatic supplies took hold, leading to the Barber Shop Coins that we are familiar with today. By now you are no doubt beside yourself

wondering why that name. Well, ever since his early days in Indiana, Wayne was drawn toward the Barber coin series. Also, his father was a barber by trade. If you ever saw one of Wayne's business cards there is a barber pole on it!

Wayne's interests outside of numismatics include gardening, woodworking, and tennis, although admittedly the tennis racket has developed a few cob webs. He used to build wooden benches, candle holders, children's desks, etc. and sell them. Wayne and his wife, Patricia, will be celebrating their 49th anniversary later this year! He has four children, most of whom used to assist him at shows in the early years. For quite a few years though, his son Eric has worked with him at shows. If you've ever seen the many, many boxes of supplies they lug in and out of shows, you will know how much Wayne appreciates Eric's extra set of muscles! If you attend any of the shows in the area, you will no doubt see Wayne and his familiar, colorful shirts.

Look it up in the RED BOOK

Answers for the questions on page 19 of this edition of the NCNA Journal (answers from the 2024 RED BOOK):

1. What coins have hogs on them?
   Sommer Islands (Bermuda) twopence, threepence, sixpence, shilling (page 33), Extra Credit: Hard Times tokens of Andrew Jackson (Hard Times HT 8-13) (page 430).
2. What was cut down and used as planchets for 1795 & 1797 half cents?
   Talbot, Allum & Lee cent tokens (pages 74 & 89).
3. Where might you encounter a Spiked Chin?
   1804 half cent (page 90).
4. What is a "Stella" and what does 'Stella" mean in Latin? $4 gold coin and Stella means Star in Latin (page 267).
5. What are Bingles? Tokens issued by the Alaska Rural Rehabilitation Corporation in 1935 (page 443).
6. Where might you encounter a Serpent Head?
   New Jersey Copper of 1787 (page 70).
7. What coin was called a "quint" and what were they made of?
   A Quint was a 1783 Nova Constellatio pattern coin made of silver and denominated as 500 units (page 83).
8. What is a Slug? Territorial $50 gold coin (page 409).
9. What is a Cinquefoil?
   Five-leafed ornament found on Fugio coppers (page 84).
10. When were the first United States silver dollars struck? 1794 (page 224).

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♣ News from the Clubs ♣

*Go to the NCNA website **NCNA.club** for the most recent updates on local club contacts, information, and news.*

Attention NCNA Member Coin Clubs!

The *NCNA Journal* needs your club news and updates on your club's activities!

Club leaders: ***Please have your representative send updates to the Journal regarding your club's activities as well as obituaries of members who recently passed away.***

Updates should be sent to Greg Cheek at ghcheek@earthlink.net or Greg Cheek – NCNA, PO Box 185, Yadkinville, NC 27055.

Thanks in advance for your help with keeping other NCNA members updated and aware of your club's organization changes, events and projects.

NCNA Classifieds

Current NCNA members may place a free, text-only buy/sell/trade ad in the *NCNA Journal*. Ads are limited to 50 words (more as space allows). Ads from non-members will be considered as space allows; cost for non-members is 25¢ per word (minimum of 20 words). The NCNA reserves the right to edit ads to fit the available space, and to refuse ads at its discretion.

WANTED: Columbian Exposition Half Dollar (Souvenir Coin) or Isabella Quarter exonumia or ephemera. Especially want original holders for distribution of the coins (leather, paper, clamshell, etc.) and the Gorham St. Cloud pattern spoon with half dollar in the bowl. Contact Russ Frank at rfrank2@nc.rr.com or 919-522-7364.

FOR SALE: Complete set of US Commemorative set of half dollars including the Lafayette Dollar and the Isabella Quarter. There are also extra coins such as the Grant with Star, Missouri 2x4, and Alabama 2x2. Very nice set of high grade coins. Contact Eric Dailey at ericdaily@roadrunner.com or 704-880-2925.

***Your ad can be here in the next issue of the* NCNA Journal!**

Join the Club!

Join the Liberty Seated Collectors Club!

The Liberty Seated Collectors Club is a group of over six hundred collectors and dealers dedicated to the study and attribution of the American silver Liberty Seated coinage of the 19th century. Social interactions at a host of regional meeting venues throughout the United States are a key element of the "LSCC Experience."

Benefits of Membership

Publications and research

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- **Monthly E-Gobrecht**, an online publication of news, events, columns, and discoveries, available by email or download

Access to series experts

- Networking with experts on each of the Liberty Seated series, from Half Dimes to Trade Dollars, all eager to share their decades of expertise with you
- Educational programs and social activities at many regional coin shows around the country
- Most key Liberty Seated reference books are authored by LSCC members who you can meet at shows and regional meetings

Membership Info

Membership is just $30 per year. Application form is on the club website, under **Membership**.

Email: lscc@lsccweb.org

Liberty Seated Collectors Club
P.O. Box 1386
Los Alamos NM 87544

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www.lsccweb.org

NCNA Membership Benefits

The NCNA was established to bring together those interested in numismatics and to foster a sharing of numismatic knowledge through its publications, its annual Convention and its support of local coin clubs. NCNA membership is open to collectors, dealers and clubs.

Why Join the NCNA?

- **Fellowship:** Become part of a numismatic community that stretches from the Great Smoky Mountains to the Outer Banks!
- ***NCNA Journal*:** Receive an award-winning quarterly magazine with informative articles, NCNA organizational updates and the latest news from member clubs.
- **Discounts on Books & Supplies**: Receive a 10% discount on numismatic books and supplies from participating dealers.
- **Annual Convention:** The NCNA hosts one of the larger coin and currency shows in North Carolina each year, featuring local and regional dealers.
    - ✓ NCNA members can enter the Convention bourse 30 minutes before the general public. (Valid NCNA membership card must be shown.)
- **Local Clubs:** The NCNA can assist with the organization of a new club or the ongoing support of an existing club. Contact us if you need assistance!
- **Club Liaison Program:** A program that brings together club representatives from across the state to exchange ideas and collaborate on improving the club experience for all members.
- **Annual Awards:** Each year the NCNA presents awards to those who have contributed to the advancement of the hobby through their support of the organization and/or the sharing of their expertise with other collectors.

Young Collector Program

The NCNA offers an educational program specifically designed for young collectors. The program was created to help develop the next generation of collectors by encouraging today's youth to become active in coin and paper money collecting.

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2024 NCNA Board of Directors Meeting Schedule

All NCNA BOD meetings are open to the NCNA membership. BOD meetings are usually scheduled on Saturday, immediately following the close of the coin show bourse and times are TBD. ***Please note that the Annual NCNA General Membership Meeting at Cabarrus Arena at 8:30 AM is open to all members of the NCNA. All members, dealers, and guests are encouraged to attend.***

Meeting Location	Date
Charlotte Coin Club Show - Charlotte **(Friday)**	Feb. 9, 2024
Azalea Festival Coin Show - Wilmington	April 6, 2024
Raleigh Money Expo - Raleigh Coin Show - Raleigh	June 22, 2024
Iredell-Statesville Coin Club Show - Statesville	Aug. 10, 2024
NCNA Convention - General Membership - Concord	Oct. 5, 2024
Carolina Coin & Stamp Show – Raleigh	Nov. 23, 2024

NCNA Local Club Outreach & Coordination

NCNA BOD Directors Bill Graves and Danny Freeman have reached out to local clubs for updated contact and other information, which has been posted on the NCNA website. They are continuing to reach out to local coin clubs and facilitate forums for sharing ideas and forming partnerships. Please feel free to contact Bill or Danny, as they are very interested in your ideas and suggestions.

NCNA Website (http://www.NCNA.CLUB)

The NCNA website is an important tool for sharing information with the membership. Alan Stullenbarger currently serves as our webmaster, with Perry Siegel providing administration for the website. Local club representatives should send all local club contact updates and news to Perry Siegel. Please send all coin and stamp show updates to Bill Graves.

NCNA Facebook Page & Other Social Media (www.facebook.com/NCCollector)

The NCNA Facebook page is another important tool for sharing information with the membership and beyond. Paul Landsberg has taken on Facebook administrative activities for our page, exploring fresh ideas in utilizing other social media to promote our hobby. Please feel free to share your ideas and suggestions with Paul in the social media arena. This is still a fairly under explored area and much more can be done to use it to promote the hobby.

North Carolina Numismatic Association

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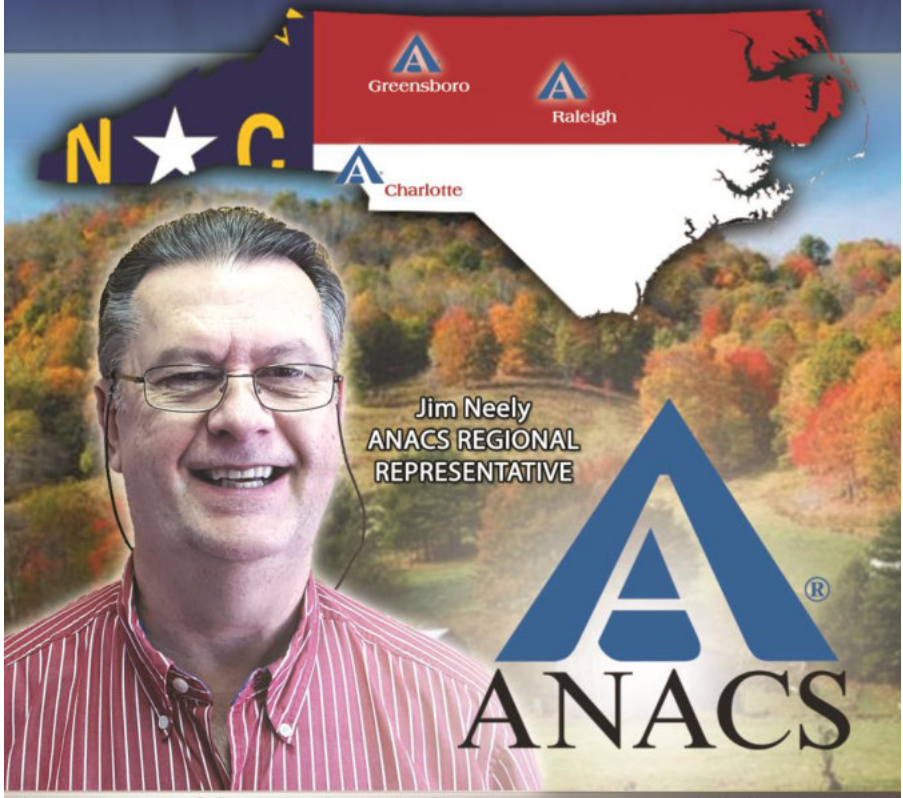

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